



# University of Pretoria Yearbook 2020

## Sociology 321 (SOC 321)

<b>Qualification</b>	Undergraduate
<b>Faculty</b>	<a href="#">Faculty of Humanities</a>
<b>Module credits</b>	30.00
<b>Programmes</b>	<a href="#">BTRP</a> <a href="#">BA</a> <a href="#">BA Law</a> <a href="#">BPolSci International Studies</a> <a href="#">BPolSci Political Studies</a> <a href="#">BSocSci Industrial Sociology and Labour Studies</a> <a href="#">BSW</a>
<b>Prerequisites</b>	SOC 210(GS) or SOC 211(GS) and SOC 220(GS) or SOC 221(GS)
<b>Contact time</b>	1 tutorial per week, 3 lectures per week
<b>Language of tuition</b>	Module is presented in English
<b>Department</b>	Sociology
<b>Period of presentation</b>	Semester 2

### Module content

#### *Thinking methodologically*

This module sets out to introduce students to 'doing research'. In this respect the assumptions and processes underpinning methodological choices in sociological research are considered in order to think about foundations of research, about how knowledge claims are made, how science is conceptualised, what role theory plays, as well as how values and ethics shape the politics of research. In addition to these foundational questions, a broad introduction to methods used in social research is provided by considering both the theoretical dimensions and practical application of various research tools. The purpose of the module is to equip students with the necessary competence to, describe ontological and epistemological debates and different approaches to research in the social sciences, delineate a research problem, identify units of analysis, make sampling decisions and formulate questions and hypothesis as well as understand the principles of quantitative (elementary statistical decision-making) and qualitative data analysis.

The information published here is subject to change and may be amended after the publication of this information. The [General Regulations \(G Regulations\)](#) apply to all faculties of the University of Pretoria. It is expected of students to familiarise themselves well with these regulations as well as with the information contained in the [General Rules](#) section. Ignorance concerning these regulations and rules will not be accepted as an excuse for any transgression.